Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:GDKULICK:NB APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

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R 302357Z APR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 101151

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ET

SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES OF RAS MENGESHA SEYOUM

- 1. DEJAZMACH ZEWDE GEBRE-SELASSIE, NOW RESIDENT SCHOLAR AT SMITHSONIAN'S WOODROW WILSON CENTER, TOLD DEPTOFF THAT RAS MENGESHA SEYOUM RECENTLY MADE OVERNIGHT TRIP FROM CANADA TO WASHINGTON TO VISIT HIM. ZEWDE SAID THAT THIS WAS PURELY SOCIAL VISIT BETWEEN COUSINS, BUT THAT RUMORS ARE CIRCULATING WITHIN ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY IN WASHINGTON TO EFFECT THAT PURPOSE OF MENGESHA'S VISIT WAS TO APPEAL TO STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SUPPORT OF HIS ANTI-DIRG ACTIVITIES. ZEWDE DISMISSED THIS AS PURE RUBBISH.
- 2. MENGESHA HAD BEEN IN CANADA FOR COUPLE OF WEEKS IN ORDER TO PLACE ONE SON AND TWO NEPHEWS IN SCHOOL. CONFIDENTIAL

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ZEWDE SAID MENGESHA ALREADY HAD SONS STUDYING IN CANADA.

3. ZEWDE SAID MENGESHA HAD GONE TO LONDON FROM CANADA AND IS NOW PROBABLY IN ROME. HE HAS NOT YET DECIDED

WHETHER TO TAKE UP ASYLUM IN ITALY OR IN KHARTOUM, BUT HAS NO PLANS TO RETURN TO ETHIOPIA UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. KISSINGER

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To: ADDIS ABABA

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